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Ysgol Gyfun
PORHCRAWL
Comprehensive School

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Headteacher/Pennaeth: M. J. Stephens NPQH, P Dip Ed, BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: D.W.A Beard BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: C-A. Painter BA (Hons)

23rd March 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term 2026, I would like to thank every member of the PCS community for their on-going support and dedication. Once again, it has been a term of considerable successes.

You may already have received the spring edition of the *Porthcawl Post*, which highlights just some of the many achievements we have celebrated so far this term. I am deeply grateful to our staff, who continually go above and beyond to ensure our pupils enjoy a wide range of experiences and opportunities. Once again, this term has offered an impressive number of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities.

A digital version of the Spring Term 2026 Edition of the *Porthcawl Post* will be available on the school website via this link: [Newsletters - Porthcawl School](#) very soon.

The 'Porthcawl Pupil'

Pupils at Porthcawl Comprehensive School are developing the:

- **P**orthcawl Purposes for Learning;
- **O**rganisational skills to always be prepared;
- **R**esilience to overcome setbacks;
- **T**houghtfulness to care and support others;
- **H**appiness that comes with belonging;
- **C**ritical thinking skills to search for meaning and truth;
- **A**uthenticity to understand their self-worth and the worth of others;
- **W**ondering desire to question; and
- **L**eadership skills to direct themselves and others.

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Some of the highlights this term include:

- A wide range of sporting fixtures – too many to list!
- Running several extra-curricular educational trips and visits (See the Porthcawl Post)
- Year 12 Geography Fieldwork.
- A Cyber Security event delivered by our Careers Wales Business Partners - Wales and West Utilities
- 'Mr Phormula' Welsh language event, a Welsh language beatboxer!
- Year 9 Presentation Skills Workshop & the First Give Project Final!
- Lots of fun at fortnightly "Enrichment" sessions in Key Stage 3.
- An International Languages Workshop.
- Saint David's Day celebrations / School Eisteddfod.
- The completion of our Sports Hall.
- Year 6 transition days - we are looking forward to welcoming Year 6 pupils for further visits to PCS in the summer term.
- Year 9 have chosen their option subjects as they begin to prepare for GCSE subjects in September 2026.
- Our Sixth Form Opening Evening - this was a success; it was a popular evening, and we look forward to approximately 160 students joining Yr12 in September 2026.

- Year 11 pupils received positive results in their GCSE mathematics exam in November, near three-quarters achieved an A*-C grade and over a third of all grades awarded were A*/A.
- Planning and rehearsals for our school production. This will be the 47th production in our school's history.
- Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photos - their final photos at our wonderful school. The Year Group photographs will take place on Monday 13th April.
- Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12 Progress Evenings, it was lovely to meet so many parents/carers.
- Our Senior Rugby Team playing in the semi-final of the Welsh Plate Competition.
- And finally, our Awards Evening on Wednesday 18th March - a wonderful evening, celebrating the success and achievement of our school community.

I thank the staff for providing these opportunities for our pupils. All this in a short term! As I said this time last year, time does fly when you're having fun! The week ahead is busy too, tomorrow we look forward to the First Give Final and pupils in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 look forward to a skiing trip to Marilleva In Italy. Friday 27th March is a non-uniform day; it is a fundraising activity coordinated by the school's Wellbeing Ambassadors who prepare for a visit to Uganda.

School Standards

Our 'Standards & Expectations' are an integral part of the characteristics, values and routines we believe in within 'The Porthcawl Pupil' and our 'Ready to Learn' approaches. High standards underpin all that we do at PCS, therefore these are revisited and reinforced with all pupils regularly. We have three very clear 'Standards Routines':

- Standards of Uniform – as per school policy.
- Mobile Phones – as per policy. Not seen and not heard on school site.
- School Site / Toilets – use facilities as intended.

We are a school of approximately 1200 students, and standards and expectations will be revisited; this ensures a positive school community for all. I thank you for your continued support with all school policies and procedures.

The Porthcawl Pupil is always "Ready to Learn"	
<p>The Porthcawl Pupil shows Respect to staff and peers. Staff at Porthcawl Comprehensive School believe in and commit to Powerful Routines. These are our daily habits and expectations. We make these explicit, and we return to them often.</p>	
The 'Porthcawl Pupil' will...	
Punctuality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive to school and all lessons on time. • Line up outside of the classroom. • Enter the classroom when your teacher tells you to do so.
In lesson 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit in your allocated seat. • Ensure you have the correct equipment. E.g. books, pens, pencils. • Answer register clearly in Welsh. • Work hard. Be respectful. Follow instructions first time. Never give up.
Uniform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear uniform as stated in our School Uniform Policy. • Remove jackets / coats upon arrival to lessons. • Only wear PCS hooded tops to PE lessons. • Not wear Jewellery.
Mobile Phones & Headphones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not be seen with a mobile phone – unless instructed by a member of staff. • Expect to have phones confiscated if used without consent. • Not use Headphones / EarPods. • Expect these items to be confiscated.
Movement around school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk around the school site in an orderly manner. • Only consume food and drink at break or lunchtime. • Only drink water: in lessons, but not in labs or ICT Suites. • Have written consent from a member of staff to leave lessons.
School Buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat all school buildings, designated break and lunchtime areas and equipment with respect. • Queue if required and asked. • Put all rubbish in the correct bin and place plates and cutlery in designated areas of the canteen.

School Site

After several months of construction work, I am pleased to announce that our Sports Hall refurbishment is now complete. This work has included new internal and external cladding, new heating, lighting and the installation of solar cells for energy efficiency. New external doors will be fitted in due course and the school's Premises Team are planning the internal decoration / refurbishment works. This work will take place after the Sports Hall has been used for the GCSE and A Level examinations.



Whole School Attendance

Overall, attendance at Porthcawl Comprehensive School remains strong compared with similar schools and has continued to improve year-on-year up to 2026. This term, our whole-school attendance has risen by almost 0.5 percentage points since the autumn term, which is encouraging. However, it still falls short of the standard we expect. Improving attendance continues to be a key priority for us. There is a well-established link between good attendance and strong academic outcomes. Pupils who attend school regularly are far more likely to achieve well, so we ask all parents and carers to support us in making sure their child's attendance is the best it can be. We encourage every pupil to arrive on time each day and aim for 100% attendance. We fully recognise that children may become unwell or that exceptional circumstances may arise. Nonetheless, we kindly ask that you consider carefully the impact that absence can have on your child's progress before deciding to keep them at home. Porthcawl Comprehensive School is dedicated to helping every child reach their full potential, and we rely on your support to ensure your child's attendance is as high as possible. Thank you.

Reminder

The school is open on identified days during the Easter holiday for additional revision sessions in preparation for the summer GCSE and A level exams. Please see the Easter revision timetable, which was shared by Mrs James, Assistant Headteacher on Friday 20th March 2026. Thank you to the staff for offering these additional sessions.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you - families - for your ongoing support, it is very much appreciated. Have a wonderful Easter break I look forward to welcoming all pupils back to PCS on **Monday 13th April 2026**.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens
Headteacher

Key dates:

- **23rd March 2026** - INSET Day (4)
- **15th April 2026** - Year 8 Progress Evening
- **4th May 2026** - Bank Holiday
- **5th May 2026** - GCSE written examinations start
- **11th May 2026** - AS Level written examinations start
- **14th May 2026** - A Level written examinations start
- **w/b 1st June 2026** - Key Stage 3 Internal Exams / Assessment Window
- **22nd June 2026** - INSET Day (5)
- **w/b 29th June 2026** – Annual School Show Performances
- **20th July 2026** – INSET Day (6)